GUIDE TO THE RI1 GEORGIA FILE

[The RI1 Georgia file is concerned with the modern Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic and its peoples. Georgia is located in the Caucasus. On the east is the Azerbaijan SSR, on the south are Armenia and Turkey, and on the west is the Black Sea. The climate is humid and the topography is mountainous. The 1970 population was 4,686,000, with Georgians constituting the majority of this total. The Georgian language is part of the South Caucasian family and it is divided into two broad dialects, the eastern and the western. The native people of Georgia are also divided into eastern and western groups. The western peoples include the Abkhazes, the Svans, Mingrelians, Gurians, and Imeretians. The eastern Georgians are the Kakhetians, including the Tushes, Khevsurs, and Pshavs, and the Kartalinians, which includes the Adzhars and the Ossets. The Adzhars, Abkhaz, and Ossetians have been organized into autonomous regions within the Georgian SSR. Minority groups living within the Georgian SSR are the Armenians, Russians, Ukranians, Greeks, Jews, and Kurds. The traditional economy was based on cereal agriculture, horticulture and viniculture, and in the mountains cattle-breeding and dairy farming were important. Under the Soviet regime, mineral resources have been developed, particularly the production of manganese.

There are five sources in the RI1 file. These sources concentrate most heavily on the history of the area. 1: Allen is a history of the Georgian people from the Bronze and Iron ages through the 19th century when Russia took control. 3: Gugushvili traces the ethnological composition, territorial extent, and political divisions from the earliest period

to the 1930's. 6: Grigolia is a doctoral dissertation in anthropology on religion, the social system, and law among the Khevsur, Tush, Pshav, and Svan. 5: American Russian Institute is a translation of the Georgian SSR constitution as amended to 1947. 4: Gugushvili is a short article on the Georgian alphabet. In addition, sections of the 7: Columbia University source of the RH1 Caucasia file appear in this file. This is a general monograph on the entire Caucasian region and sections dealing with Georgia have been excerpted for the RI1 file. This is neither a lengthy nor a well-rounded file, and it is not recommended for comparative purposes. The source numbering is discontinuous; there is no source number 2 at this time. The file was processed in 1955.]